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30 October 2002

SPRUSON & FERGUSON
GPO Box 3898
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Your Ref : 510819:PAL

Examiner's first report on patent application no. 37952/00
by NEC CORPORATION

Last proposed amendment no.

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am replying to the request for normal examination. I have examined the application and I believe that there are lawful grounds of objection to the application. These grounds of objection are:

1. There is no Notice of Entitlement on file.
2. The invention defined in claims 1-26 is not novel or inventive when compared with the following document which discloses all the essential features of the invention claimed:
*WO 99/45723-A1-(SBC Technology Resources Inc.).

* Cited against the corresponding GB application.
3. Claims 2,4,5,6,7,8,16,17,18,22,23 and 24 do not fully define the invention since they do not include the feature of having preferences assigned to the different networks. This would appear to be an essential feature of the invention.
4. Claims 2,4-11 and 13-24 do not fully define the invention since they do not include the feature of providing neighbour cell information. This would appear to be an essential feature of the invention.
5. I cannot determine the scope of claim 30 especially in regard to network components.
6. Claims 22-27 are unclear due to the use of the phrase "or component thereof". It is unclear whether the component has all of the features listed as being included or it is a component of a system which has these features.

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